

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

SP-02 OMB-01 AGR-10 SS-15 L-03 ABF-01 DODE-00

/143 W

-----261048Z 121859 /13

R 260919Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1699

UNCLAS RABAT 2246

DEPARTMENT PASS OGSM/USDA FOR KOELLER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, ETRD, MO

SUBJECT: PL480 TITLE I - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FOR 16TH AGREEMENT

REF RABAT A-31

1. CONTINUING LACK OF RAINFALL SINCE LAST REPORT HAS CAUSED A STEADY DETERIORATION IN CONDITION OF GRAIN CROP AND MUCH OF THE WHEAT GROWN IN IN THIN SOILS IS NOW BEYOND RECOVERY, EVEN SHOULD THERE BE ADEQUATE RAINFALL BETWEEN NOW AND HARVEST. DESPITE FAVORABLE EARLIER INDICATIONS, PRESENT OUTLOOK IS THAT MOROCCO'S DOMESTIC WHEAT SUPPLY FOR 1977/78 WILL BE ONE OF THE SMALLEST IN RECENT HISTORY. THE OFFICIAL ESTIMATE OF 1976/77 PRODUCTION IS 1,350,000 MT, COMPARED WITH 1,575,000 MT IN 1975/76. WHILE PRODUCTION MAY NOT FALL QUITE THAT LOW (WE ARE PRELIMINARILY ESTIMATING

1,500,000 MT), IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE COUNTRY IS IN FOR A POOR YEAR AND IMPORT REQUIREMENTS WILL BE 50 PERCENT GREATER THAN PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED. THE OFFICIAL ESTIMATE OF IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR 1977/78 IS NOW 1,500,000 MT WITH WHICH WE AGREE. IMPORTS OF THAT MAGNITUDE PLUS A 1,500,000 MT CROP WILL COVER CONSUMPTION BUT NOT PERMIT EVEN A MINIMAL BUILDUP OF STOCKS. WHILE UNCLASSIFIED

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THE 76/77 WHEAT CROP HAS NOT BEEN A DISASTER, THE FAILURE OF THE BARLEY CROP IN THE SOUTH WILL PUT A FURTHER STRAIN ON IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COMING YEAR. (EXCESS OF RAIN AT THE WRONG TIME AND DRYING WINDS CAUSED THE DECREASE IN BARLEY PRODUCTION, PARTICULARLY IN THE MARRAKECH-AGADIR REGION.)

3. AS PER OUR A-02 OF JANUARY 17 AND RABAT 416, CENTRAL GOVERN-

MENT BUDGET AND BORROWING PLANS WERE CAREFULLY CONSTRUCTED TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC GROWTH OBJECTIVES DURING LAST YEAR OF FIVE YEAR PLAN ON INTER ALIA ASSUMPTION OF AVERAGE CROP YEAR. WE ARE ALREADY HEARING EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN FROM BANKERS AND OTHERS THAT NEED TO DIVERT CAPITAL RESOURCES TO GRAIN IMPORTS MAY EXERCISE DISPROPORTIONATE EFFECTS ON ACHIEVEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND GROWTH OBJECTIVES.

4. THE FOLLOWING TABLE IS OUR PRESENT BEST ESTIMATE OF WHEAT SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION FROM 1972/73 TO 1976/77:

MOROCCO: SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION TABLE  
(000 MT)

COMMODITY WHEAT 1972/73 1973/74 1974/75 1975/76 1976/77

STOCKS, JULY 1	460	460	420	359	468
COMMERCIAL	(100)	(100)	(130)	(259)	(150)
ON FARM	(360)	(360)	(290)	(100)	(318)

PRODUCTION	2,160	1,570	1,850	1,575	1,500
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IMPORTS - TOTAL	460	1,040	1,032	1,213	950#
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COMMERCIAL

US	(120)	(565)	(412)	(366)	(245)
FRANCE	(25)	(300)	0	0	0
EEC	0	0	(492)	(798)	(115)

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CANADA	0	0	(31)	(48)	(45)
ARGENTINA	0	0	(87)	0	(226)
BULGARIA	0	0	(10)	0	0
OTHER	(185)	(60)	0	0	0

CONCESSIONAL

US TITLE I	(20)	(55)	0	0	(88)
US TITLE II	(110)	(60)	NA	WHEAT EQUIVALENT OF FLOUR NOT INCLUDED	
OTHER	NA	NA	NA	NA	0

TOTAL SUPPLY	3,080	3,070	3,302	3,147	2,918
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CONSUMPTION	2,290	2,360	2,693	2,624	2,670
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SEED, WASTE,

SPOILAGE	330	290	250	55	55
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STOCKS, JUNE 30 360 290 359 468 193

TOTAL

DISTRIBUTION 3,080 3,070 3,302 3,147 2,918

# INCLUDES 231 TO ARRIVE BEFORE 6/30 BUT ORIGIN AS YET UNKNOWN.

NA - NOT AVAILABLE

5. COUNTRY TEAM STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE FULL GOM  
REQUEST FOR 100,00 MT OF WHEAT BE PROGRAMMED FOR  
MOROCCO. GOM WOULD SHIP THIS WHEAT DURING JULY AND  
AUGUST. ANDERSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009